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PROFILE THEATRE PRESS CONTACT:

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**PROFILE THEATRE ANNOUNCES
TANYA BARFIELD
AS THE 2016 FEATURED PLAYWRIGHT**



PORTLAND, OR, June 29, 2015 – **PROFILE THEATRE (Adriana Baer, Artistic Director)** is excited to announce that **Tanya Barfield** will be the company’s featured playwright for the 2016 season. Beginning in January 2016, the company will dedicate its productions and programming to exploring the scope and breadth of this playwright’s work.

Portland native Tanya Barfield’s plays intertwine subjective memory, truthful relationships and poetic language like fingers clasped together. Barfield’s work is infused with a sensitivity toward characters that are human beings rather than mouthpieces. They traverse time in an exploration of how we define ourselves. Through sexuality, class, race, gender, politics, and love, Barfield’s plays focus on a microcosm while examining the macrocosm of the world we live in, the lies we tell to protect ourselves and those we care about, and the truths we must face to grow. Through snarled arguments and honest conversations, Barfield expresses the difficulty and the necessity of authentic dialogue.

“Having an entire season devoted to my own work is a true gift - and the fact that Profile Theatre is in my hometown makes it all the more magical,” said Ms Barfield.

Tanya Barfield was born and raised in Portland, Oregon. Her play *Bright Half Life* premiered at the Women's Project Theater and was a TimeOut Critic's Pick. Her play *The Call* premiered at Playwrights Horizons in co-production with Primary Stages and was a Critic’s Pick for the New York Times. *Blue Door* (South Coast Rep, Playwrights Horizons) was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. Other work includes: *Feast* (co-writer, Young Vic/Royal Court), *Of Equal Measure* (Center Theatre Group), *Chat* (New Dramatists’ Playtime Festival), and *The Quick* (New York Stage & Film). A recipient of a Lilly Award, the inaugural Lilly

Award Commission and a Helen Merrill Award, Tanya is a proud alumna of New Dramatists and a member of The Dramatist Guild Council. She has written for the upcoming Starz series, *The One Percent*. She currently writes for *The Americans* on FX.

The Main Stage productions for the 2016 Season are *The Call*, *Blue Door* and *Bright Half Life*. The Fall Festival is *Antigone Project* written by Tanya Barfield, Karen Hartman, Chiori Miyagawa, Lynn Nottage and Caridad Svich.

About Profile Theatre:

Now in its 18th season, Profile Theatre's mission is to produce a season of plays devoted to a single playwright, engaging with the community to explore that writer's vision and influence on theatre and the world at large.

Profile Theatre's 2015 Season is supported in part by generous support from The Regional Arts and Culture Council and Work for Art, The Oregon Arts Commission, The Meyer Memorial Trust, The James F. & Marion L. Miller Foundation, The Collins Foundation, The Kinsman Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The Autzen Foundation, The Herbert A. Templeton Foundation and the PGE Foundation.

Profile's 2015 season featuring the work of Sarah Ruhl continues next month with the In Dialogue Staged Reading of *The Lady Onstage* by Erin Bregman being presented July 13 and 14. In Dialogue staged readings include new and contemporary plays in conversation with Sarah Ruhl's body of work.

The next Main Stage production in our 2015 season is *Passion Play*, presented in collaboration with Shaking the Tree Theatre, running Sept. 9-13, 2015 as Profile's Fall Festival. The season will end with *Orlando*, based on the novel by Virginia Woolf, running Nov. 5-23, 2015.

For more information, visit Profiletheatre.org or call 503.242.0080.

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